

Franklin Bridge Club

2026 BRIDGE LESSONS



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Lesson Four

Responder's New Suit Bids



Basic Rules for Responder's bids

You have 3 choices

1. **Support** partner's suit
2. **Bid a new suit**
3. **Bid NoTrumps** if options 1 or 2 are not possible



New Suit Bids by Responder

- 1-level bid = 6+ HCP
- 2-level bid = 10+ HCP

(Don't jump to the 2-level if you can bid at the 1-level)

These bids are unlimited
they are **FORCING**
Opener **MUST** bid again



Which Suit do you bid first?

1. Longest suit
2. Lower available 4-card suit
3. Higher ranking 5-card suit

These bids are unlimited
they are **FORCING**
Opener **MUST** bid again



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts

?



If your Partner Opens 1♥
What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts

Bid 1♠...

your own suit at the 1-level



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



10+ points and no fit in hearts

?



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



10+ points and no fit in hearts

Bid 2♦...

your own suit at the 2-level



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts.

Not enough points to bid your longer suit at the 2-level

?



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts.

Not enough points to bid your longer suit at the 2-level

Bid 1♠...

your own suit at the 1-level



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts.

You cannot bid your own suit at the 1-level or 2-level

?



If your Partner Opens 1♥ What do you bid with this hand?



6+ points and no fit in hearts.

You cannot bid your own suit at the 1-level or 2-level

You MUST Bid INT...
the only bid left available to you



Basic Rules for Opener's Rebid

- Agree partner's suit if you have a fit
- Bid No Trumps if no other option available
- Bid another suit (if you can)
- Bid your suit again (with extra length)

AT THE SAME TIME

- Describe the quality of your hand

MINIMUM, NEARLY GAME or GAME



What type of Opening hand do you have?

18 - 19	GAME
16 - 17	Nearly Game
12 - 15	Minimum



Supporting Responder's Suit

- **MINIMUM** (12-15) ... raise a level
- **INVITATIONAL** (16-17) ... jump a level
- **GAME** (18-19) ... bid game

MUST HAVE A FIT
4+ support



Opener's Rebid – SUPPORT PARTNER

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

You have a fit (14 HCP)

MINIMUM HAND – Bid 2♠



Opener's Rebid – SUPPORT PARTNER

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♥

You have a fit, 16 HCP

NEARLY GAME (INVITATIONAL) – Bid 3♥



Opener's Rebid – SUPPORT PARTNER

You open 1♣ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

You have a fit, 19 HCP

GAME – Bid 4♠



Opener's NO TRUMP Rebid

- **LOWEST NT LEVEL = 15 – 17 HCP**
- **JUMP IN NT = 18 – 19 HCP**
(forcing to game)

Shows a balanced hand



Opener's NO TRUMP Rebid

You open 1♣ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 16HCP

LOWEST NT LEVEL - Bid 1NT



Opener's NO TRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 16 HCP

LOWEST NT LEVEL - Bid 2NT



Opener's NO TRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♥

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 18HCP

JUMP IN NT - Bid 2NT



Opener's NO TRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 18 HCP

JUMP IN NT - Bid 3NT



Opener's Bid of a New Suit

- 2nd suit ***below the barrier*** = 12 – 15 HCP
- 2nd suit ***above the barrier*** = 16 – 19 HCP

Shows an unbalanced hand

**Shows 5+ cards in first suit and
4+ cards in second suit**



What is the “barrier” ?



Opener **DOES NOT** bid past their original opening suit unless they have 16+ points



Examples of the “barrier” ?



1♦ then 1♠

2♦ is the barrier, so unless you have 16+ points you can only bid 2♣ or 2♦



Examples of the “barrier” ?



1 ♠ then 2 ♣

What is the barrier in this example ?
What suits can you bid below the barrier ?



Opener's **NEW SUIT** Rebid

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 13 HCP

MINIMUM

so bid new suit BELOW 1st suit – Bid 2♣



Opener's **NEW SUIT** Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 12 HCP

MINIMUM – CANNOT BID HEARTS

Rebid 1st suit – Bid 2♦



Opener's NEW SUIT Rebid

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 19 HCP

GAME – MUST BID PAST THE BARRIER

Jump in second suit – Bid 3♦



Opener's Rebid of their own suit

- **2-level** = 12-15 HCP
- **Jump** = 16-17 HCP (6+)
- **GAME** = 18-19 HCP (6+)

Usually shows a single suited hand



Opener's Rebid of their own suit

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 12 HCP

MINIMUM

Rebid your own suit – Bid 2♦



Opener's Rebid of their own suit

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 16 HCP

NEARLY GAME (INVITATIONAL)

Rebid your own suit – Bid 3♥



Opener's Rebid of their own suit

You open 1♠ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 17 HCP

GAME 6+ own suit and partner has 10+ HCP

Bid GAME in your suit – Bid 4♠



How to answer the quiz

Here are 3 bidding examples, where you open 1♥ and partner responds. What is your subsequent bid? There are 3 answers per hand using the 3 bidding examples (a) (b) and (c)

(a) 1♥ - 1♠
?

(b) 1♥ - 2♣
?

(c) 1♥ - 2♦
?

Hand 1

♠ Q952
♥ AK962
♦ 5
♣ AK5

Hand 2

♠ A52
♥ KQ743
♦ 5
♣ A1085

Hand 3

♠ 52
♥ A9862
♦ AKJ6
♣ 53

Hand 4

♠ A53
♥ KQJ654
♦ K5
♣ A8

Hand 5

♠ 5
♥ AKQ76
♦ KQ865
♣ A4

(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(c)

(c)

(c)

(c)

(c)



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(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(c)

(c)

(c)

(c)

(c)



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♦ K5
♣ A8

Hand 5

♠ 5
♥ AKQ76
♦ KQ865
♣ A4

(a)

(b)

(c)

Repeat hands 2 to 5 in the same manner



Questions?



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